WORK-A-DAY DOINGS ON THE FARM

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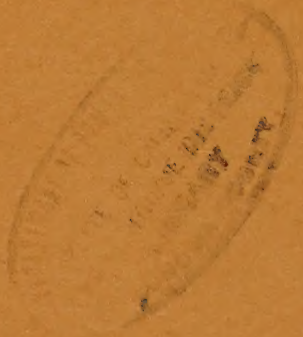
BY EMMA SERL



Franklin C. Block

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BY

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BUYING THE FARM

One day Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben came down the hill.

'ig Bear Dan said,

"I do not like to live in the woods.
I should like to live on a farm."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I should like to live on a farm, too.
Let us buy a farm from a man."

So Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben walked and walked and walked.

At last they saw a Man on a farm.

Big Bear Dan called,

"O Man, come here.
We want to talk to you."

The Man came to the gate.

He said,

"What do you want?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"We do not like to live in the woods.

We want to live on a farm."

Little Bear Ben said,

"We should like to buy your farm.

We should like to live here."

The Man said,

"My farm is a very good farm.
See the barn and the house!
I want to go away.
I will sell you my farm."

So Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben bought the farm.

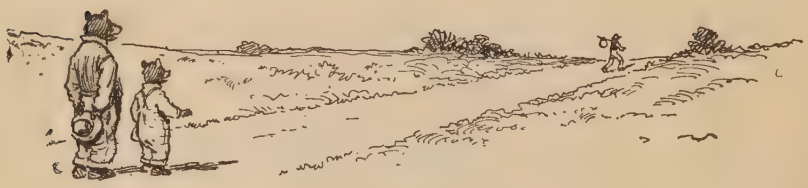
And the Man went far, far away.

Big Bear Dan said,

"I like the house and I like the barn."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like the house and the barn, too.
I am glad we came to the farm."



PLOWING AND PLANTING

Big Bear Dan said,

"It is spring.

I want to plant something.

I am going to plant some corn."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I want to plant something, too.

I am going to plant some wheat."

Big Bear Dan said,

"We must plow the ground before we can plant anything."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I saw a plow in the barn.
Let us go and get it."

They found a plow in the barn, and Big Bear Dan took it to the field.

Then Little Bear Ben pushed and Big Bear Dan pulled.

They plowed round and round the field.

Big Bear Dan said,

"I am tired.

This is no fun.

I do not want to pull the plow.

I am not a horse."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I am tired, too.

Let us go to town and buy a Big Black Horse.

He can plow round and round the field."

So Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben went to town.

There they saw a Big Black Horse.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Big Black Horse, can you pull a plow?"

Little Bear Ben said,

"Can you pull a plow round and round the field?"

The Big Black Horse said,

"See how big I am!
I can pull and pull and pull."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Then we will buy you, and you may live with us on the farm."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben led the Big Black Horse home.

The Big Black Horse said,

"You have a fine farm.
I like it here."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Go into the barn and eat some hay.
Then you can pull the plow."

The Big Black Horse ate the hay in the barn.

Then he pulled the plow round and round the field.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Now I can plant my corn."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Now I can plant my wheat."

They worked all day.

They planted the wheat and the corn in the ground that the Big Black Horse had plowed.

THE RAIN

Big Bear Dan said,
"I hope my corn will grow."
Little Bear Ben said,
"I hope my wheat will grow."
Big Bear Dan said,
"I wish it would rain.
We need rain very much."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Do you see that cloud?

I know it will rain."

Big Bear Dan said,

"It is raining now.

Run, Little Bear, run to the house."

Then it rained and it rained and it rained.

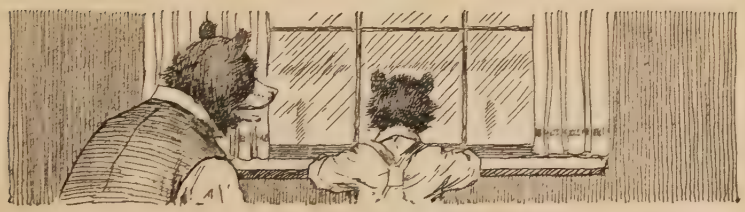
Big Bear Dan said,

"I hope it will not rain too long.

I want the sun to shine on my corn."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I want the sun to shine on my wheat."



But it rained and it rained and it rained all day.

Big Bear Dan said,

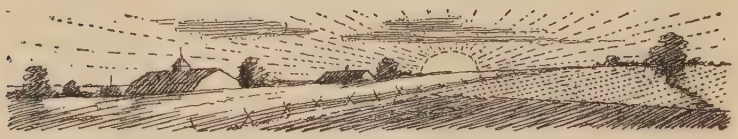
"I do not like those clouds.
I wish they would go away."

It rained and it rained and it rained all night, and then the clouds went away.

The Big Round Sun came up.

He said,

"I will shine on the farm of Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben.
I will make their corn and wheat grow."



THE CROWS

Big Bear Dan said,

"I hear some crows.

I wonder where they are."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I hear some crows, too.

I think they are in the field of corn."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Let us go and see.

I do not want them to eat my corn."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben went to the field.

They saw twenty Black Crows eating the corn that Big Bear Dan had planted.

Big Bear Dan said,

"O Black Crows, do not pull up my corn.

I want it to grow."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Please go away.

Please let our corn alone."

The Black Crows said,

"We will not go away.

We are going to eat all the corn in the field."

Big Bear Dan said,

"You shall not eat my corn."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben ran after the Black Crows.

The Black Crows flew up into a tree.
They said,

"You can not catch us, Big Bear Dan.
We will come back when you go away.
Then we will eat your corn."

Big Bear Dan said,

"What can we do?"

Little Bear Ben said,

"I do not know what we can do."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Crows are afraid of a man.
I wish we had a man.
He could stay in the field.
Then the Black Crows would not come back."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Let us make a man.

I saw a coat and hat in the barn."

Big Bear Dan said,

"We can hang them on this tall pole."

Big Bear Dan put the pole in the ground.

Little Bear Ben brought the coat and hat.

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will put hay inside the coat.
We want to make a good man."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I will put the coat and hat on the pole.
Now we have a fine man.
He will take care of my corn."

The Wind came by.

He said,

"Oh, see the man in the field of corn!
Big Bear Dan has put him there.
I will make him wave his arms."

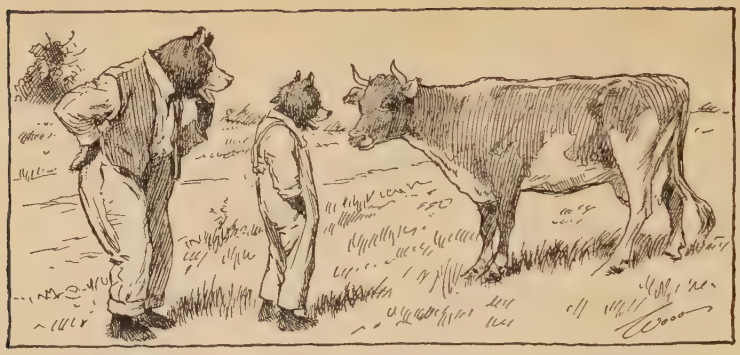
The Wind blew and blew.

The man in the field of corn waved his arms back and forth.

The Black Crows said,

"There is a man in the field of corn.
See him wave his arms!
We are afraid of men.
Let us not stay here.
Let us fly far away."

So the Black Crows flew far away.
They never came back to Big Bear Dan's field of corn.



THE LITTLE RED COW

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben liked milk.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Cows give milk.

If we had a cow she would give us milk every day."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like milk very much.

Let us go to town and buy a Little Red Cow."

So Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben went to town.

They saw a Little Red Cow.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Little Red Cow, can you give milk?"

The Little Red Cow said,

"I can give milk.

I can give milk every day."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Then we will buy you.

You may live with us on the farm."

Big Bear Dan said,

"You may stay in the barn with the Big Black Horse.

You may have all the hay and grass and corn you can eat.

And you can give us good sweet milk to drink."

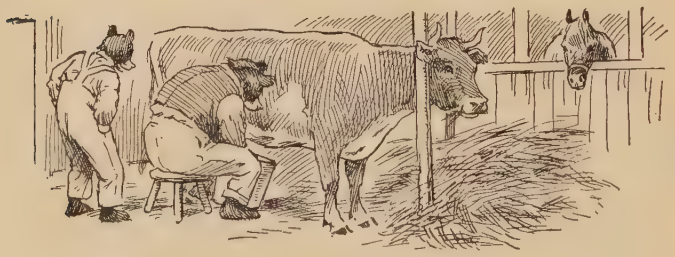
So Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben led the Little Red Cow to the farm.

The Little Red Cow said,

"I like your farm very much.
I like the barn and the Big Black Horse.
I am glad you bought me."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Eat some hay and then give us some good sweet milk."



The Little Red Cow ate the hay in the barn with the Big Black Horse.

She said,

"This is very good hay.
Now I will give you some milk."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I can milk a cow.
I will get a pail."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I can milk a cow, too.
I want to help."

Big Bear Dan found a pail in the house, and he milked the Little Red Cow.

Little Bear Ben said,

"Now let me milk.

I can milk a cow, too."

Little Bear Ben filled the pail with milk.

He said,

"Now I am going to have a drink."

Big Bear Dan said,

"You must not drink from the pail. You must get a cup."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben took the pail to the house.

Big Bear Dan got a cup and Little Bear Ben got a cup, and they drank the good sweet milk.

THE WHITE HEN

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben
were hungry.
Big Bear Dan said,
"I like eggs."
Little Bear Ben said,
"I like eggs, too.
I wish I had one now."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Hens lay eggs.

If we had a hen she would lay an egg for us every day."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Let us go to town and buy a nice White Hen.

She can make a nest in the barn and lay her eggs there."

So Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben went to town.

They saw a nice White Hen.

Big Bear Dan said,

"White Hen, can you lay eggs?"

The White Hen said,

"I can lay eggs.

I can lay an egg every day."

Little Bear Ben said,

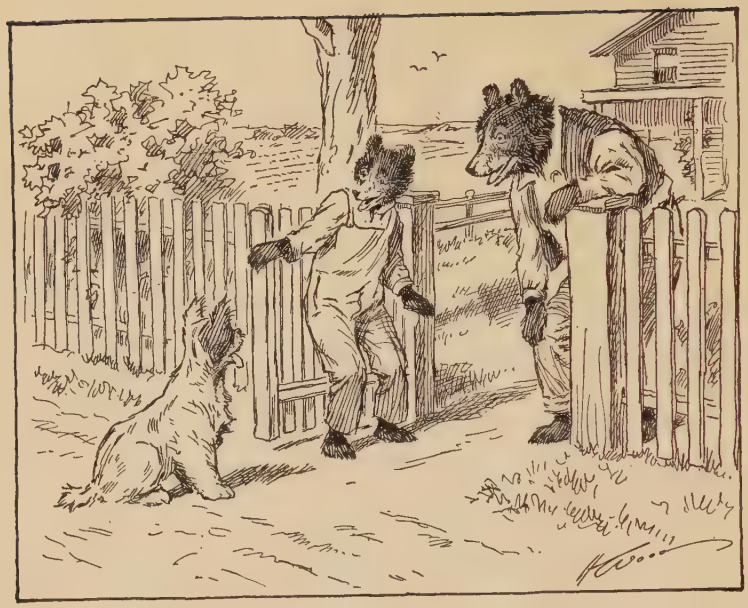
"Then we will buy you.
You may live with us on the farm.
You may make a nest in the barn
and lay your eggs there."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben took the White Hen to the farm.

The White Hen said,

"I like the farm and I like the barn.
I will make a nest in the hay."

So the White Hen made a nest in the hay and she laid an egg every day.



THE SHAGGY DOG

Big Bear Dan said,
"I hear something."
Little Bear Ben said,
"I hear something, too."
Big Bear Dan said,
"Something is at the gate.

Let us see what it can be."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben went down to the gate, and they saw a Shaggy Dog.

Big Bear Dan said,

"What do you want?"

Little Bear Ben said,

"What do you want here?"

The Shaggy Dog said,

"I am a poor dog.

I have no home.

I want to live with you on the farm."

Big Bear Dan said,

"What can you do?"

Little Bear Ben said,

"Can you work?"

The Shaggy Dog said,

"I can take care of the house at night.

I will bark if I hear anything."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Will you be good to the Big Black Horse?"

Little Bear Ben said,

"Will you be good to the White Hen?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"Will you be good to the Little Red Cow?"

The Shaggy Dog said,

"I will not bark at the Big Black Horse.

I will not bark at the White Hen.

I will not bark at the Little Red Cow.

I will be a good dog."

Big Bear Dan said,

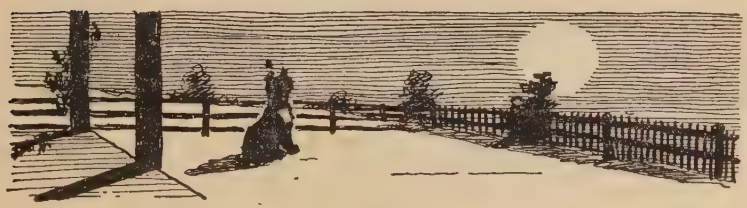
"Then you may come in.

I like a good dog."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like a good dog, too.

You may come in and live with us on the farm."



THE CHURN

Big Bear Dan said,

"I like butter on my bread."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like butter on my bread, too."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Butter is made from cream.
If we had a churn we could make
some butter."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Let us go to town and buy a churn.
Then we can make some butter."

Big Bear Dan said,

"It is too hot to walk to town.
I will ride on the Big Black Horse."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will ride on the Big Black Horse,
too."

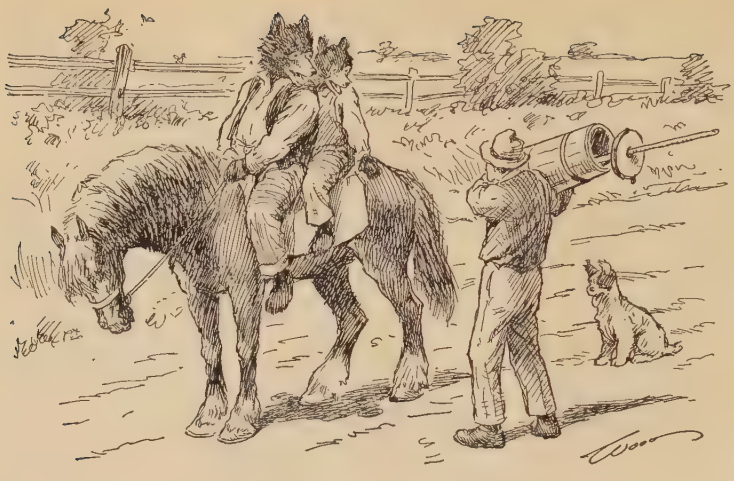
Big Bear Dan said,

"You are too little.
You might fall off."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will not fall off.
I will hold to you."

So Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben
rode the Big Black Horse to town.



They saw a Man with a churn.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Can that churn make good butter?"

Little Bear Ben said,

"Can it make good butter every day?"

The Man said,

"It can make the best butter you ever ate."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Then we will buy it and take it to the farm."

The Man sold them the churn, and the Big Black Horse took Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben and the churn away to the farm.

CHURNING

Big Bear Dan said,

"I shall make some butter to-day."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I shall make some butter to-day, too."

Big Bear Dan said,

"It is hard work to churn.
You may get tired.
I will churn first."

They put the cream into the new churn, and Big Bear Dan churned and churned and churned.

Little Bear Ben said,

"Now let us look in the churn.
I want to see."

Big Bear Dan took off the cover.

Little Bear Ben said,

"I do not see any butter.
Let me churn."

So Little Bear Ben churned and churned and churned.

Big Bear Dan said,

"It is hard work to churn.
It hurts my arms."

Little Bear Ben said,

"It hurts my arms, too."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Let us look in again."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I think I see some butter.
I want to try it."

Big Bear Dan put some butter on his bread, and Little Bear Ben put some butter on his bread.

Big Bear Dan said,

"This is fine.
I like good butter."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like good butter, too.
We will churn every day."

THE GRAY CAT

Big Bear Dan said,

"I saw some mice in the barn."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I saw some mice in the barn, to-day, too.

I do not like mice.

What shall we do?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"Cats catch mice.

If we had a cat she could catch the mice."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Let us get a nice cat.

She could catch the mice in the barn, and the Little Red Cow would give her milk to drink."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Dogs do not always like cats.

Let us ask the Shaggy Dog if he would be good to a cat."

Little Bear Ben said,

"The Shaggy Dog is in the meadow with the Little Red Cow.

If you call him he will come."

Big Bear Dan called,

"Shaggy Dog! Shaggy Dog!
Come here! We want to talk to you."

The Shaggy Dog came as fast as he could.

He said,

"What do you want, Big Bear Dan?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"There are mice in the barn.
We do not like mice."

Little Bear Ben said,

"We want to get a nice cat.

She could catch the mice in the barn.

Do you like cats, Shaggy Dog?"

The Shaggy Dog said,

"I like some cats.

I know a nice Gray Cat."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Where does she live?"

The Shaggy Dog said,

"She lives a long way from here.

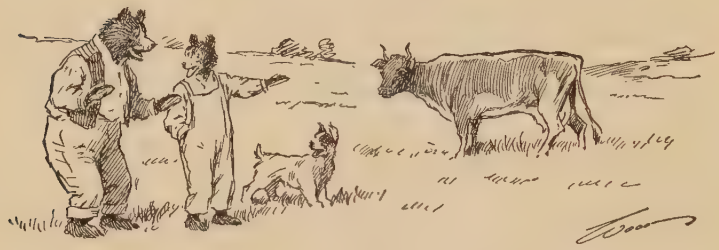
She lives away over the hill."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Tell her to come and live with us on the farm."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Tell her we want her to catch the mice in the barn.



Tell her that the Little Red Cow will give her milk to drink."

The Shaggy Dog said,

"I do not think she can walk so far. She is not very big."

Big Bear Dan said,

"You must carry her over the hill."

Little Bear Ben said,

"You can take this basket.

She can ride in it."

The Shaggy Dog took the basket in his mouth.

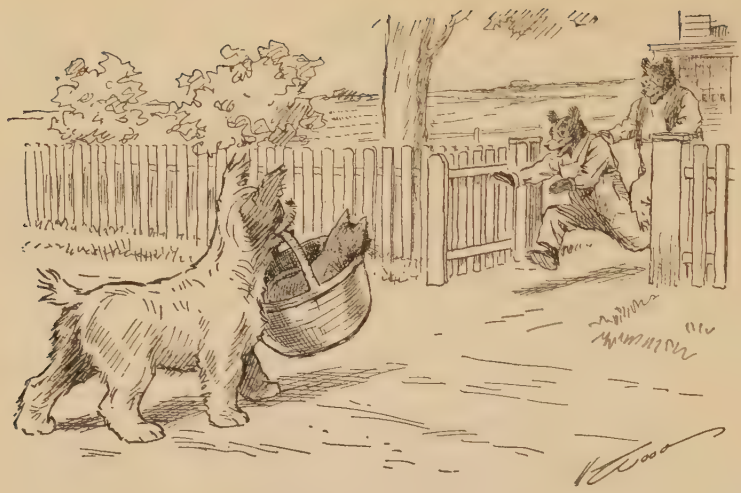
He ran away over the hill to the place where the Gray Cat lived.

He told the Gray Cat about Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben.

He told her about the farm and the mice in the barn.

Then the Gray Cat got into the basket, and the Shaggy Dog carried her away over the hill to the farm.

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben were at the gate.



Big Bear Dan said,

"We are glad you have come, Gray Cat.

We hope you will like the farm."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Here is some milk for you in this dish.

Drink it and then you can catch some mice."

The Gray Cat drank the milk.

She said,

"That is the best milk I ever tasted.
Now I will catch some mice."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben took the Gray Cat to the barn.

The next day there were no mice to be found.

The Gray Cat had caught them all.

HOEING THE CORN

Big Bear Dan said,

"I am going to hoe my corn to-day."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will help you hoe your corn.
It is no fun to work alone."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Let us take a lunch with us.
We might get hungry."

Little Bear Ben said,

"We can put the lunch in a basket.
We can eat when we get tired."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Let us take a big lunch.
It is hard work to hoe corn."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben put the lunch into a basket.

Big Bear Dan got a big hoe.

Little Bear Ben got a little hoe.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Let us go before it gets hot.
I don't like to work when the sun is hot."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Let us go now.

It is going to be hot to-day."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I will carry the basket.

It is too heavy for you."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will help carry the basket.

I will carry one side."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben took the basket between them.

They went to the field to hoe the corn.

Big Bear Dan said,

"I will hoe this row.

I will cut down all the weeds so that the corn can grow."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will hoe this row.

I will cut down the weeds, too."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben worked and worked.

They cut down the weeds in row after row.

Big Bear Dan said,

"The sun is getting hot.

I am hungry.

I think it is time to eat."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I am hungry, too.

Let us eat our lunch."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben sat down in the shade of a tall tree.

They ate the lunch from the big basket.

Big Bear Dan said,

"It is hard work to hoe corn.

I am going to take a nap."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I am going to take a nap, too.
We can hoe some more after we wake up."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben slept in the shade of the tall tree.

After a while they woke up.

Big Bear Dan said,

"I feel better.
Now I can work some more."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I feel better, too.
Let us hoe the rest of the corn."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben worked until the sun went down.

There was not a weed left in the field of corn.

Big Bear Dan said,

"I am going to have a fine crop of corn.

There will be enough to feed the Big Black Horse and the Little Red Cow and the White Hen all winter."

THE BEES

One day Big Bear Dan was in the yard.
He called,

"O Little Bear Ben!
Come here quick!"

Little Bear Ben was getting dinner but he ran as fast as he could.

He said,

"What do you want, Big Bear Dan?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"There is a swarm of bees in the big apple tree.

Bees make honey.

If we can get them to stay on the farm we shall have all the honey we can eat."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like honey very much.

How can we get them to stay?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"I will get a nice box.

We will ask them to make their home in it."

Little Bear Ben said,

"You must hurry.

I am afraid they will fly away.

I want them to stay and make honey."

Big Bear Dan went to the barn.

He found a nice box and took it to the apple tree.

The bees said,

"Buzz, buzz, buzz, buzz!

We are looking for a hive."

Big Bear Dan said,

"You may have this box for a hive.
See how nice and clean it is!
I will set it here on the ground."

Little Bear Ben said,

"We should like to have you stay
on the farm.
Do not fly away.
Make your home in this box."

The bees looked at the box.
They flew round and round it.

The Queen Bee said,

"I like this box.

It will make a good hive.

Let us stay here on the farm of Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben."

The bees buzzed and buzzed and buzzed.

Then they flew into the box and made their home there.

Big Bear Dan said,

"We shall have some fine honey for winter."

Little Bear Ben said,

"It will be good to eat on our bread.

I like honey very much."

The bees said,

"We will work hard this summer.

We will make all the honey we can.

We will save it for Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben."

THE HAY

Big Bear Dan said,

"The Big Black Horse likes hay.
The hay in the barn is nearly gone."

Little Bear Ben said,

"The Little Red Cow likes hay, too.
The Big Black Horse works hard,
and the Little Red Cow gives us
milk every day.
We must get hay for both of them."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I will cut the grass in the meadow.
The sun will dry the grass.
Then we can put it into the barn, and the Big Black Horse and the Little Red Cow will have hay all winter."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will help cut the grass.
Let us do it to-day."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben cut the grass in the meadow.

The Big Round Sun looked down.

He said,

"Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben are cutting the grass in the meadow.

I will shine upon it until it is dry.
Then the Big Black Horse and the Little Red Cow will have hay for winter."

The Big Round Sun shone and shone and shone.

He shone until the grass in the meadow was dry.

Big Bear Dan said,

"See how dry the hay is!
We must put it into the barn before the rain comes.
The Big Black Horse can pull it there on the wagon."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I see some clouds in the sky.
I think it will rain to-day."

The Big Black Horse pulled the wagon to the meadow.

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben put the hay upon it.

Big Bear Dan said,

"How black the clouds are!
I am afraid the hay will get wet."

Little Bear Ben said,

"We must work as fast as we can.
It is going to rain soon."

At last the hay was all on the wagon.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Now, Big Black Horse, you must take the hay to the barn.

You must hurry, for it is going to rain."

Little Bear Ben said,

"You must go as fast as you can.

We do not want the hay to get wet."

The Big Black Horse pulled the load up the hill as fast as he could.

The clouds came nearer and nearer.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Can't you go a little faster, Big Black Horse?"

The Big Black Horse said,

"The load is heavy.

I can not go any faster."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Then I will push."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will push, too.

The hay must not get wet."

The Big Black Horse pulled and pulled and pulled.

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben pushed and pushed and pushed.

The clouds came nearer and nearer and nearer.

At last the load of hay was in the barn, and then the rain began to fall.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Now there is hay for the Big Black Horse all winter."

Little Bear Ben said,

"There is hay for the little Red Cow, too."

The Big Black Horse said,

"I think I will eat some hay now. I am tired and hungry."

THE WHITE HEN'S CHICKS

Big Bear Dan said,

"We have not had any eggs for a long time.

Let us ask the White Hen about it."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I have not seen the White Hen to-day.

I wonder where she is."

Big Bear Dan said,

"She may be in the barn."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben went to the barn.

They found the nest in the hay, but the White Hen was not there.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Little Red Cow, have you seen the White Hen?"

The Little Red Cow said,

"I have not seen the White Hen to-day.

I do not know where she is."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Big Black Horse, have you seen the White Hen?

We are afraid she is lost."

The Big Black Horse said,

"I have not seen the White Hen to-day.

I do not know where she is."

Big Bear Dan said,

"The White Hen likes corn.

I will put some on the ground.

She may come to eat it."

Big Bear Dan put some corn on the ground.

Little Bear Ben called,

"White Hen! White Hen!

Come and get some corn!"

After a while the White Hen came.
Big Bear Dan said,

"Where have you been, White Hen?
We were afraid you were lost."

Little Bear Ben said,

"We have not had any eggs for a long time.
Why don't you lay some eggs for us?"

The White Hen said,

"I do not want you to eat all my eggs.

I have made a new nest under the barn.

I have laid some eggs in the nest.

I sit on the eggs and keep them warm all day and all night.

Some day I shall have some little chicks."

Big Bear Dan said,

"That is all right, White Hen.

We will not look for your nest."

Little Bear Ben said,

"You had better go back to your nest.

If your eggs get cold you will not have any little chicks."

The White Hen sat on her nest for days and days and days.

Then one morning she led ten little yellow chicks into the yard.

She said,

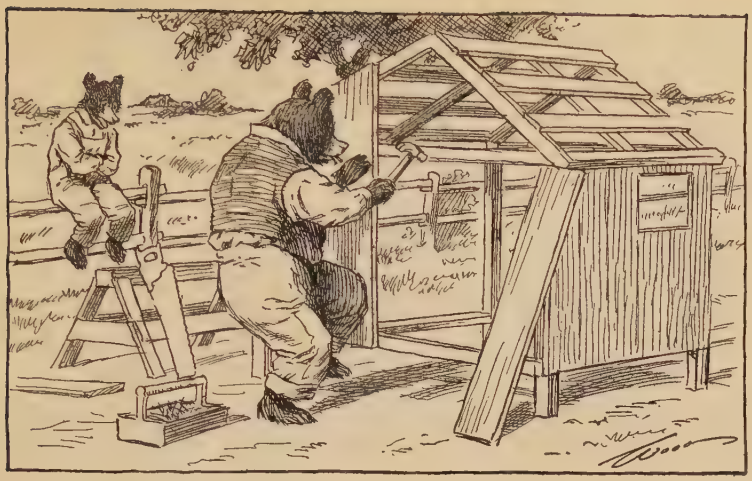
"Cluck, cluck, cluck!
Come and see, come and see!"

Big Bear Dan said,

"There is the White Hen.
See her fine little chicks!"

Little Bear Ben said,

"Come here, little chicks.
I won't hurt you.
I will get you something to eat.
We hope you will like to live on
the farm."



THE WHITE HEN'S HOUSE

Big Bear Dan said,

"I wish we had a house for the White Hen and her ten chicks."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Let us go to town and buy one."

Big Bear Dan said,

"We do not need to buy a house. We can make one."

Little Bear Ben said,

"It will be fun to make a house.
I want to help."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I saw some boards in the barn.
We can make a house of them."

Big Bear Dan brought the boards and some nails.

Little Bear Ben brought a hammer and a saw.

Big Bear Dan said,

"I saw a man make a house.

He did it like this."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Let me hit the nails.

I like to pound."

Big Bear Dan said,

"You might hit your paw.

You had better let me hit the nails."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will not hit my paw.

I will be careful."

Little Bear Ben took the hammer.

He hit the nail once very hard.

He hit the nail two times very hard.

And then —— he hit his paw very hard.

Little Bear Ben howled and howled.
Big Bear Dan said,
"Do not cry, Little Bear Ben.
Be a brave bear."
Little Bear Ben stopped crying.
He said,
"I do not want to hit any more nails.
I will watch you make the house."
So Big Bear Dan made the house, and Little Bear Ben watched.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Now we will call the White Hen and her ten chicks.

We will ask her how she likes the house."

The White Hen came with her ten chicks.

She walked around the house and she went into the house.

She said,

"This is the best house I ever saw.

My chicks and I will be very happy here.

I am glad I came to the farm to live."

THE WHEAT

Little Bear Ben said,

"I think my wheat is ripe.
Let us go and look at it."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I am sure it is ripe.
I will help you cut it."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben cut the wheat in the field.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Now we must bind it and put it into shocks."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I never saw any shocks.

How do you know so much about it?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"I saw a man fix his wheat last summer.

I will show you how to do it."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben worked from early in the morning until late at night.

They put the wheat into shocks.

The next day Big Bear Dan said,

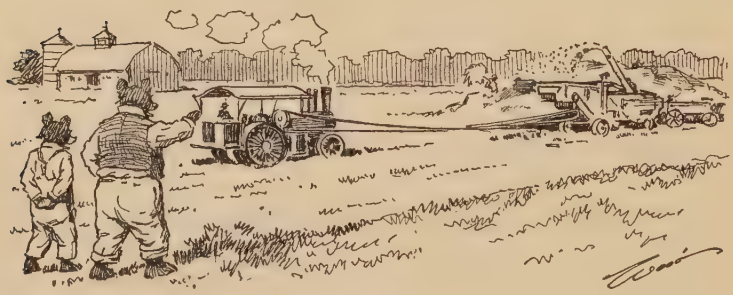
"Now we will put the wheat into a big stack. Then the rain can not hurt it."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben worked very hard.

They piled the shocks into a big stack.

Little Bear Ben said,

"Now the rain can not hurt my good wheat."



One day the Big Threshing Machine came.

It stopped beside the stack.
It threshed the wheat and put it into bags.
And then it went away.
Little Bear Ben said,
"See my fine bags of wheat.
Now we can take it to the mill."
The Big Black Horse brought the wagon to the field.
Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben put the bags of wheat into the wagon.
Big Bear Dan said,
"I will sit in front and drive."
Little Bear Ben said,
"I will sit behind.
I will see that the bags do not fall off.

I do not want to lose any of my
wheat."

The Big Black Horse pulled the load
of wheat to the mill.

Big Bear Dan called,

"O Miller, come here!
We want to talk to you."

The Miller came to the door of the
mill.

He said,

"What do you want, Big Bear Dan?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"We want you to grind our wheat."

Little Bear Ben said,

"We want you to grind our wheat into flour."

The Miller said,

"This is fine wheat.

I will grind it to-day."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben took the bags of wheat into the mill.

The mill ground and ground and ground.

It ground the wheat into flour.

Big Bear Dan said,

"We shall have all the flour we can use this winter."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Let us take it home and bake some good things to eat."

THE APPLES

Big Bear Dan said,

"Let us go down to the apple tree.
I think the apples are ripe."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like sweet red apples.
I hope they are ripe."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben went to the apple tree.

Big Bear Dan said,

"You stay here on the ground.
I will climb the tree and see if the apples are ripe."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will climb the tree, too.
I want to pick some ripe apples."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I am afraid you will fall.
You are too little to climb a tree."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will not fall. I will be careful.
Please help me up."

Big Bear Dan helped Little Bear Ben up into the tree.

Then Little Bear Ben climbed away up high.

He found apples that were sweet and red.

He sat in the tree and ate as many as he could.

Big Bear Dan said,

"We can not eat all these apples.
Let us put some away for winter.
We can eat them when the snow is on the ground."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I should like to have some to eat this winter.
Where shall we put them?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"We can put them in the cellar.
They will keep down there.
We can carry them in the big basket."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben got the big basket.

They filled it with apples that were sweet and red.

Little Bear Ben helped Big Bear Dan carry the basket to the cellar.

Little Bear Ben said,

"How good these will be when the snow comes and we have to stay in the house!"

SELLING THE CORN

Big Bear Dan said,
"I am going to look at my corn.
I think it is ripe."
Little Bear Ben said,
"I will go with you.
I am sure the corn is ripe."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben went to the field of corn.

Big Bear Dan said,

"See how big the ears of corn are!"

Little Bear Ben said,

"I never saw such big ears of corn."

Big Bear Dan said,

"It is time to pick them.
I am going to do it now."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will help you pick them.
I like to pick corn."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben worked all the morning and all the afternoon.

Little Bear Ben said,

"I am tired.

We have not picked half the corn.
Why did you plant so much?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"We do not have to work any more to-day.
We can come again to-morrow."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben went home.

They came to the field of corn the next day.

They made a big, big pile of yellow corn.

Little Bear Ben said,

"There is too much corn.

The Big Black Horse and the Little Red Cow and the White Hen can not eat it all.

You planted too much."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I did not plant too much.

I will put part in the barn for the Big Black Horse and the Little Red Cow and the White Hen.

I will take part to town and sell it."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will go to town with you.

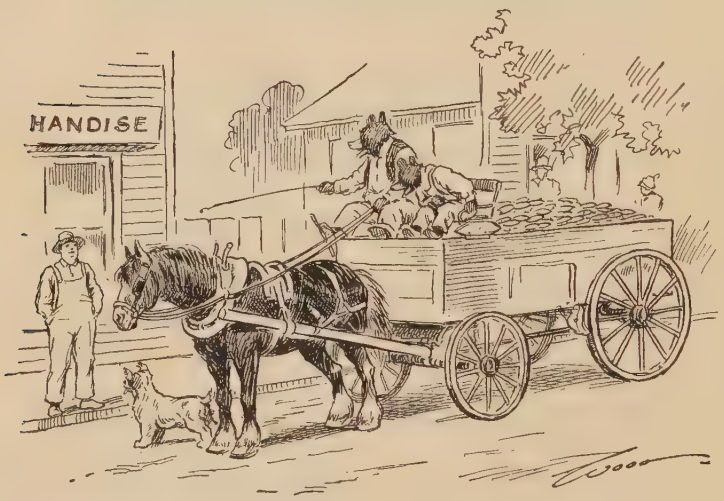
I will help you sell the corn."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben and the Big Black Horse took the corn to town.

They saw a man on the street.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Do you want to buy some corn?"



Little Bear Ben said,

"We have some very good corn to sell."

The man said,

"I need some corn.
I will give you a bag of money for your corn."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben took the bag of money to the farm.

Big Bear Dan said,

"I will plant more corn next year.
I like to earn money."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will plant more wheat next year.
I like to earn money, too."

THE NUTS

Big Bear Dan said,

"I think there was a frost last night.

See how white the ground is!"

Little Bear Ben said,

"I know there was a frost last night.

It is getting cold."

Big Bear Dan said,

"When the frost comes the nuts fall.

Nuts are good to eat.

I like apples and nuts."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like apples and nuts, too.

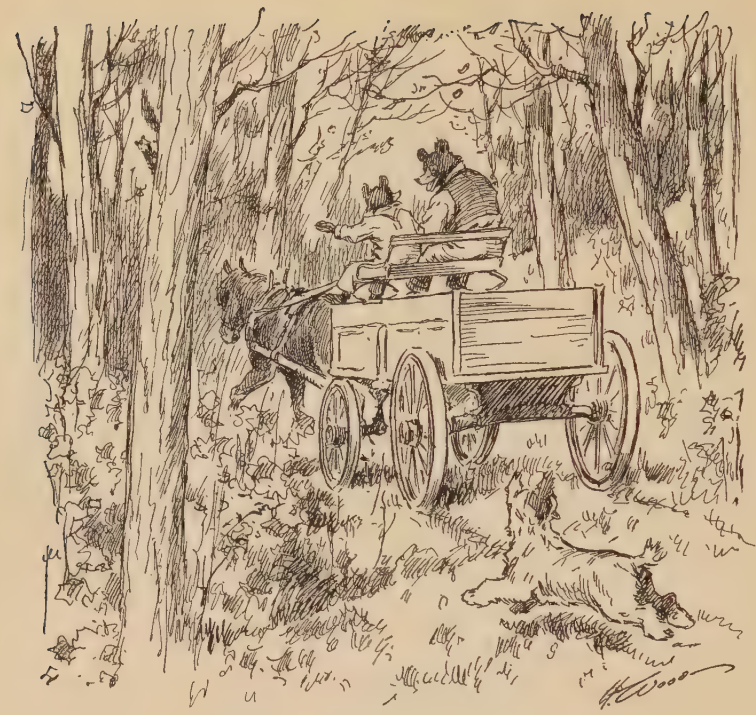
Let us go to the woods and get some nuts."

Big Bear Dan said,

"Nuts are heavy to carry, and the woods are far away.

Let us take the Big Black Horse with us.

We can put the nuts into the wagon, and he can bring them home."



Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben and the Big Black Horse and the wagon all went to the woods.

The frost opened the nut burs.

The wind shook the nuts from the high trees.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Look, Little Bear Ben!
See the nuts on the ground.
Put them into that bag.
Then we will put the bag into the wagon."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I never saw so many nuts.
It is fun to pick them up."

The Frisky Squirrel ran down the tree. He said,

"Do not take all the nuts, Little Bear Ben.
I want some for winter."

Little Bear Ben said,

"There are enough nuts for you and for us, too.

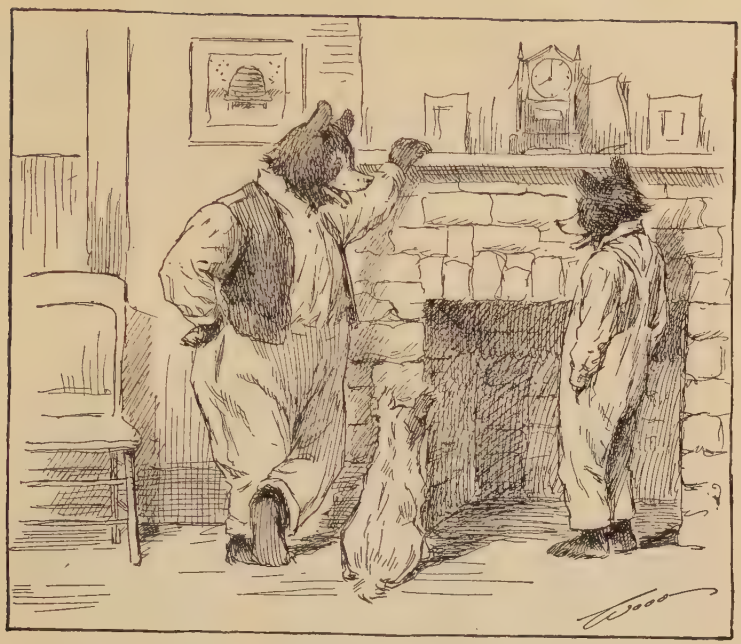
We will leave some on the ground."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben filled the bag with nuts.

The Big Black Horse took the nuts home in the wagon.

Little Bear Ben said,

"See our fine apples and nuts.
How good they will be this winter!"



CUTTING WOOD

Big Bear Dan said,
"Winter is coming.
It is cold in winter.
If we had some wood, we could make a fire and keep warm."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I do not like to be cold.

Let us go to town and buy some wood."

Big Bear Dan said,

"We do not need to buy wood.

We can cut down some trees."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like to be warm.

Let us cut down some trees to-day."

Big Bear Dan said,

"We will take the Big Black Horse with us.

He can pull the wood in the wagon."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben and the Big Black Horse went to the woods.

Big Bear Dan took a big ax.
Little Bear Ben took a little ax.
They worked all day.
They cut down the trees and put them into the wagon.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Now, Big Black Horse, you can pull the load of wood."

The Big Black Horse pulled the wood to the house.

Big Bear Dan said,

"Let us pile the wood near the house.

I do not want to carry wood a long way."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I do not want to carry wood a long way either.

It is too much work."

Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben took the wood from the wagon and made a pile near the house.

Big Bear Dan said,

"See how big our pile of wood is!
When winter comes we shall keep warm."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I am glad we have so much wood.
I do not want to get cold."

WHEN THE LITTLE RED COW RAN AWAY

Big Bear Dan said,

"I don't see the little Red Cow."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I don't see the Little Red Cow either."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I will look in the barn.
She may be eating hay."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I will look in the meadow.
She may be eating grass."

So Big Bear Dan went to the barn, and Little Bear Ben went to the meadow.

After a while they came back.

Big Bear Dan said,

"I looked in the barn, but she was not there."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I looked in the meadow, but she was not there."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I do not see where she can be."

Little Bear Ben said,

"There is the Shaggy Dog.
Let us ask him."

Big Bear Dan called as loud as he could,

"Shaggy Dog! Shaggy Dog!
Come here! We want to ask you something."

The Shaggy Dog was in the yard.

He heard Big Bear Dan call and he came as fast as he could.

He said,

"What do you want, Big Bear Dan?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"We can not find the Little Red Cow. I looked in the barn, but she was not there."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I looked in the meadow, but she was not there."

The Shaggy Dog said,

"I do not see where she can be."

Big Bear Dan said,

"You must look for her.

If you bark she may hear you and come home."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Bark as loud as you can.

I want the Little Red Cow to come home."

The Shaggy Dog barked and barked and barked.

But the Little Red Cow did not come home.

Little Bear Ben said,

"There is the Big Black Horse.

Let us ask him."

Big Bear Dan called as loud as he could,

"Big Black Horse! Big Black Horse! Come here! We want to ask you something."

The Big Black Horse was in the road.

He heard Big Bear Dan call, and he came as fast as he could.

He said,

"What do you want, Big Bear Dan?"

Big Bear Dan said,

"We can not find the Little Red Cow.

I looked in the barn, but she was not there."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I looked in the meadow, but she was not there.

The Shaggy Dog barked for her, but she has not come home."

The Big Black Horse said,

"I do not see where she can be."

Big Bear Dan said,

"You must look for her.
Take me on your back and go away down the road."

Little Bear Ben said,

"Take me on your back, too.
I don't want to stay at home alone."

So the Big Black Horse took Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben and went away down the road.

After a while they met a Squirrel.

Big Bear Dan said,

"O Squirrel, have you seen a Little Red Cow?"

Little Bear Ben said,

"She lives with us on the farm.
She gives us milk every day."

The Squirrel said,

"I saw a Little Red Cow go down the road a little while ago."

The Big Black Horse ran faster and faster.

After a while Big Bear Dan said,

"I think I hear something."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I think I hear something, too."

Big Bear Dan said,

"The Little Red Cow is calling.
She must be near.
Stop, Big Black Horse, stop!
I want to get off."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I want to get off, too.
I want to find the Little Red Cow."

So Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben got off the Big Black Horse.

They went into the woods and there they found the Little Red Cow.

Big Bear Dan said,

"We have come a long way to find you.

Why did you run away?"

Little Bear Ben said,

"We don't want you to run away.

We want you to stay on the farm."

The Little Red Cow said,

"I did not mean to run away.

I came down the road to eat grass.

I got lost. I did not know how to get back to the farm.

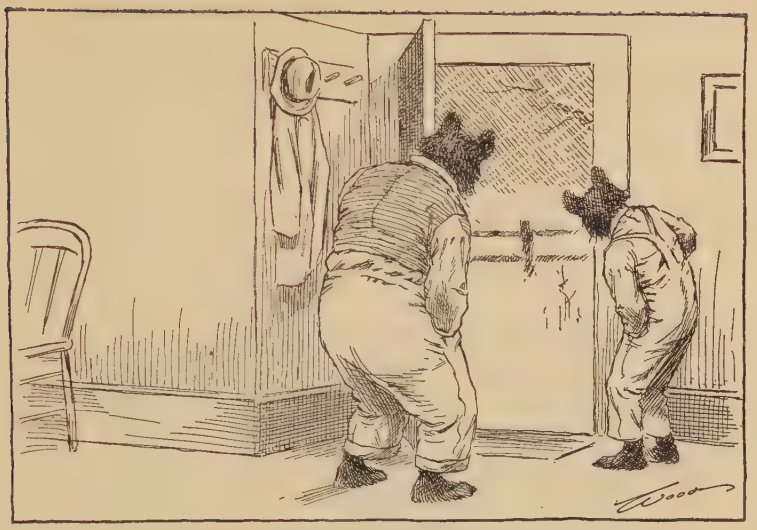
I am so tired, I want to go home."

The Little Red Cow went home with Big Bear Dan and Little Bear Ben and the Big Black Horse.

The Little Red Cow said,

"I am glad to get back to the farm.

I hope I shall never get lost again."



THE WINTER

Big Bear Dan said,

"It is snowing.

I am going to stay in the house to-day."

Little Bear Ben said,

"It is cold.

I am going to stay in the house to-day, too."

Big Bear Dan said,

"We have worked hard all summer.
Now we can rest."

Little Bear Ben said,

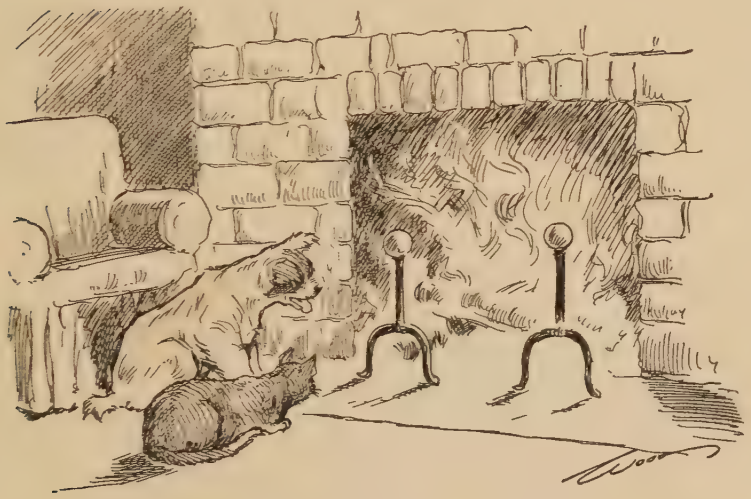
"How warm the fire is!
I am glad we do not have to work
to-day."

Big Bear Dan said,

"The Shaggy Dog can stay in the
house with us.
He likes to sit by the fire."

Little Bear Ben said,

"The gray cat can stay in the house, too.
She can sit by the fire with the Shaggy Dog."



Big Bear Dan said,

"The Black Horse can stay in the barn.
It is not cold there.

He can eat the hay and corn."

Little Bear Ben said,

"The Little Red Cow can stay in the barn with the Big Black Horse.

She can eat the hay and corn, too."

Big Bear Dan said,

"The White Hen and her ten little chicks can stay in their house.

They will not get cold.

The bees can sleep in their hive.

They can eat honey when they are hungry."

Little Bear Ben said,

"We can eat honey, too.

The bees gave us enough for all winter."

Big Bear Dan said,

"We have flour, and we can make bread and cake."

Little Bear Ben said,

"We have apples that are sweet and red.

And we have good nuts, too."

Big Bear Dan said,

"I am glad we have a big pile of wood.

I am sure it will keep us warm until spring."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I am glad the pile is near the house.

I should not like to carry wood through the snow."

Big Bear Dan said,

"We are warm and we have plenty to eat.

No one on our farm will be hungry or cold."

Little Bear Ben said,

"I like to live here.

I am glad we came to the farm.

I want to stay here always."